

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraphs to the specification after paragraph [0027] in the section entitled “Brief Description of Drawings.”

[0027.1] Figure 8 is a schematic diagram of a tank bracket having a gas spring and a damper in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

[0027.2] Figure 9 is a schematic diagram of a tank bracket having a hydraulic device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace paragraphs [0030], [0048], and [0049] as originally filed with the following amended paragraphs [0030], [0048], and [0049].

[0030] Figure 4 shows an exemplary diagram of a tank bracket (404) in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The tank bracket (404) includes a frame (406) and a cradle (408). The frame is mounted on a counterweight (400) of a forklift truck (~~not shown~~), and the cradle (408) is rotatably connected to the frame (406) via a hinge (416), which functions as a pivot for the tank bracket (404). A first portion of the hinge (416) is formed on a first end of the frame (406), and a second portion of the hinge (416) formed on a first end of the cradle (408). Also, the portion of the hinge (416) formed on the first end of the cradle (408) is operatively connected to the frame via a gas spring (418), where a first end of the gas spring (418) is connected to the hinge (416) and a second end of the gas spring (418) is connected to an anchor (422) protruding from the frame (406).

[0048] Referring now to Figure 8, in ~~In~~ some embodiments, the fuel tank bracket (406) is fitted with a motion damper (800) designed to slow a free fall motion of the cradle (408) and the fuel tank (402) as the cradle (408) is maneuvered from the retracted position to the extended position. In some cases, a first end of the motion damper (800) is connected to the anchor (422) disposed on the frame (406), and a second end of the motion damper (800) is connected to the gas spring (418). It is noted that a ~~motion~~ motion dampener (800) will not provide an upward force; it will only prevent the cradle from falling to the extended position at a speed that may be hazardous to personnel and to the equipment. Thus, because the motion damper (800) only operates to slow free fall motion of the cradle (408) and the fuel tank (402), the operator is still required to manually maneuver the cradle (408) from the extended to the retracted position.

[0049] Referring now to Figure 9, in ~~In~~ an alternative embodiment, a gas spring or a motion damper may be replaced with a hydraulic device (900). Advantageously, the hydraulic device (900) mechanically maneuvers a cradle between a retracted and an extended position without operator assistance.